

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMCONSUL IBADAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1972

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMCONSUL KADUNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L IBADAN 381

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PINR, NI

SUBJ: ADUWO REPLACED AS WESTERN STATE GOVERNOR

1. FMG ANNOUNCED LOCAL RADIO AT 3:20 P.M. SEPTEMBER 2 THAT NAVAL CAPTAIN AKINTUNDE ADUWO WOULD BE REPLACED AS GOVERNOR WESTERN STATE BY COLONEL DAVID JEMIBEWON WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT. ADUWO TO PROCEED ON AN "OVERSEAS COURSE". ANNOUNCEMENT CONCLUDED WITH BRIEF BIO ON JEMIBEWON: EARLY EDUCATION OFFA GRAMMAR SCHOOL IN KWARA STATE; JOINED ARMY SOON AFTER LEAVING SCHOOL; TRAINED AT MONS OFFICERS COLLEGE, SANDHURST; ADJUTANT-GENERAL 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION DURING NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR; COMMANDER ARMY DEPOT AT ABEOKUTA AND PRINCIPAL STAFF OFFICER, NIGERIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS LAGOS AFTER WAR.

2. NO PUBLIC EXPLANATION FROM FMG OR OTHER OFFICIAL SOURCES HAS BEEN MADE FOR TOTALLY UNEXPECTED RELIEF ADUWO. AT ABOUT NOON ON DAY OF DISMISSAL HE HAD TELEPHONED HIS WIFE IN LAGOS TO JOIN HIM AT GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE, WHERE RENOVATION HAD JUST BEEN COMPLETED; AND HAD OFFERED PROMINENT EX-POLITICIAN POSITION IN WS CABINET. AT 1:30 P.M. HE INFORMED SMG ADEBAYO OF HIS REASSIGNMENT AND THAT HE WAS EXPECTED IN LAGOS AT 4:00 P.M. HE DEPARTED FOR LAGOS

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AT ABOUT 2:30, AFTER UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORTS INFORM WIFE TO STAY IN

LAGOS. HE HAD SERVED AS GOVERNOR ABOUT ONE MONTH.

3. CONSENSUS AMONG WS OFFICIAL INFORMANTS IS THAT ADUWO NOT TOUGH ENOUGH FOR HIS FMG SUPERIORS. PRIVATE SOUCCES SAY HE ACCUSED OF BEING DILATORY IN CARRYING OUT FMG ORDERS TO POINT INSUBORDINATION BECAUSE OF HIS EFFORTS TAKE LOCAL CIVILIAN REACTIONS INTO ACCOUNT BEFORE ACTING. SPECIFICALLY IT IS ALLEGED HE MOVED TMO SLOWLY ON ORDERS TO HAND OVER UNIVERSITY IFE TO FEDERAL CONTROL, AS RESULT HAVING CONSULTED CHIEF AWOLOWO. (FEDERAL TAKEOVER UNIVERSITIES IFE AND AHMADU BELLO ANNOUNCED FROM CABINET OFFICE LAGOS AUGUST 27).

4. WS OFFICIALS AND MILITARY MFFICERS WHO KNOW JEMIBEWON AGREE HE UNLIKELY MAKE MISTAKES SIMILAR ADUWO'S. A YORUBA OF KWARA STATE ORIGIN, HE DESCRIBED AS CRUDE, BRUTAL, "A RASCAL", WHO HAS FREQUENTLY ENGANGED IN - AND ALWAYS WON - FISTFIGHTS WHEN CROSSED-AND WHO BOASTED AT ONE PARTY OF BEATING HIS WIFE. HE HAS REPUTATION AS ENTHUSIASTIC AND UNSCRUPULOUS SOCCER PLAYER, LONG ON BRAWN, SHORT OF BRAINS.

5. COMMENT: ALL SOURCES SOUND AS IF WS HAS INHERITED IDI AMIN. TOP CIVIL SERVANTS DEPRESSED AND JITTERY. ALLOWING FOR YORUBA EXAGGERATION, AND SEVERAL OBVIOUS HOLES IN STORY ABOUT UNIFE TAKEOVER, WE EXPECT STATE IS IN FOR TOUGHEST ADMINISTRATION IT HAS EXPERIENCED. APPRECIATE ANY BIO ADDRESSEES HAVE AVAILABLE ON JEMIBEWON.
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